

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims so that they read as follows:

1. (Original) A method for the potentiation of an immune response to an infectious disease after the discontinuation of treatment for the infection or prior to vaccination, comprising administering to a subject a composition comprising IL-2 in an amount effective to maintain immune enhancement without eliciting toxicity of Grade 1 or higher as defined by the World Health Organization.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has Human Immunodeficiency Virus.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the subject has undetectable plasma viral RNA levels.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the subject has discontinued HAART.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has HCV.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the subject has undetectable plasma viral RNA levels.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the subject has discontinued IFN- $\alpha$  therapy or combination IFN- $\alpha$  and ribavirin therapy.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of IL-2 administered is about 100,000 to about 500,000 IU/m<sup>2</sup> body surface/day.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is immune reconstituted.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the IL-2 composition further comprises a pharmaceutical carrier.

11. (Original) A method for treatment of hepatitis C virus comprising administering to a subject a composition comprising IL-2 in an amount effective to maintain immune enhancement without eliciting toxicity of Grade 1 or higher as defined by the World Health Organization.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the IL-2 is administered in addition to IFN- $\alpha$  and ribavirin antiviral therapy.
13. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the IL-2 is administered to the subject using cells engineered to produce and secrete IL-2 or agents having IL-2 activity.
14. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the IL-2 is administered to the subject using cells engineered to produce and secrete IL-2 or agents having IL-2 activity.
15. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein IL-2 administration continues at the time of vaccination.
16. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein IL-2 administration continues subsequent to vaccination.